

INCORPORATING SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

How does the 21st CCLC fit within the broader context of a school's improvement plan?*

A 21st CCLC program can be an important component in a school improvement plan, particularly as it offers extended learning time to help children meet State and local academic standards. Local programs must ensure that the academic services they provide are aligned with the school's curriculum in the core subject areas.*

IMPORTANT STEPS IN THE PROCESS:

- Gain access to the school's ASIP (Arizona School Improvement Plan)
- Look for *Targeted Goals and Targeted Areas of Improvement*.
Example: Students will increase in reading comprehension, decoding and literary analysis skills by at least 3% on Spring 2005 assessments.
Example: Students will increase in grammar skills and narrative writing skills by at least 7% on the 2004-2005 AIMS assessment.
- Study the different ways the school is working on achieving the stated goals. Note the content, the curriculum they are using, the products they have purchased to support students, and any instructional strategies they have defined as important for student success.
- As a team, brainstorm strategies and program decisions that will reinforce targeted concepts and enhance the curriculum in place during the school day.
- Ask to meet with the principal, School Improvement Team members, curriculum leaders on campus, and/or grade level teachers to talk about targeted goals and the School Improvement Process. Ask how the after-school programs can help. Let them know you would be interested in attending any staff development opportunities that would support the school's targeted goals for the year.
- Plan activities that incorporate school goals and continue to check in with teachers and administrators on campus regarding student growth.
- Look for ways to document student growth. As you plan each class, consider how you will evaluate its effectiveness.

*21ST Century Community Learning Centers, *Non-Regulatory Guidance, G-8*, U. S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs, February 2003